

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated November 15, 2010 (USPTO Paper No. 20101104). In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, claims 1-44 and 46-61 stand for consideration in this application. Any and all amendments to the specification and to the claims are fully supported throughout the disclosure of the invention. Applicants submit that no new matter is being introduced into this application through the submission of this response.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 11-44 and 46-61 were rejected on the grounds of non-statutory, obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 7,606,557. Applicants are hereby submitting a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this double patenting rejection. In view of this submission, Applicants submit that this rejection is hereby obviated or rendered moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 2, 3-5 and 7-10 recite allowable subject matter, but are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

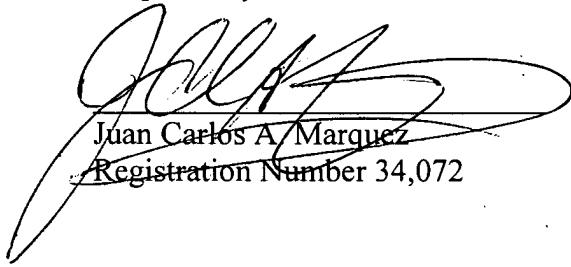
Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for his consideration of the allowable claims. However, in view of the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer as noted above, Applicants will submit that all the claims of record are now allowable over the prior art.

Conclusion

In view of all the above, Applicant respectfully submits that certain clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely. These differences are more than sufficient that the present invention as now claimed would not have been anticipated nor rendered obvious given the prior art. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

STITES & HARBISON, PLLC
1199 North Fairfax Street
Suite 900
Alexandria, VA 22314-1437
(703) 739-4900 Voice
(703) 739-9577 Fax
Customer No. 38327
February 15, 2011